5th June 2005

Tough Law and Order: No Apologies, No Compromises

The Country Liberal Party is today releasing further elements of its No Apologies, No Compromises Law and Order policy.

These are Truth-in-Sentencing and Community Crime.

A key element in our Community Crime is to win back our streets.

Country Liberal Party Leader Denis Burke said, “We will introduce a Public Order Act to deal with such issues as offensive and abusive language, fighting, urinating, defecating, begging and other sorts of street offences.

“These laws will be enforced: no ifs, no buts and no apologies.

“The Public Order Act will supplement the Summary Offences Act which Labor refuses to enforce.

“If you break the law, expect to face the full extent of the law. This is about an attitude – you have to have the right attitude and the attitude must come from the top down.

“As part of our policy we will crack down on kids roaming the streets.

“We will introduce a mandatory curfew for juveniles who are caught breaking the law or engaging in anti-social behaviour.

“Under our policy once a juvenile is picked up by the police they will have an automatic after dark curfew until they are dealt with via a diversionary program.
“Further, we will;
  - Upgrade our Forensic Capability for Property Crime
  - Make Licensed Premises Safer
  - Provide additional support to Resident’s Associations and Community Watch.”

Truth in Sentencing

The Country Liberal Party will undertake a major review of sentencing in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders.

“With the general framework of sentencing, a CLP Government will commit to the majority of a sentence being served before eligibility for parole,” Mr Burke said.

“Under a Country Liberal Party Government:

  - Increased penalties for offenders convicted of using a firearm or weapon to commit a crime will apply.
  - Mandatory consecutive sentences will apply for multiple violent crimes.
  - A “Three Strikes” policy will be introduced for property crime. A third criminal conviction of an adult will attract a minimum mandatory sentence.
  - The Country Liberal Party will introduce laws to protect Police and Emergency Service workers including Nurses. Anyone who assaults Police or Emergency Service Workers or Nurses while they are performing their duty will face a minimum 12 month prison sentence.

“A Country Liberal Party government will enforce all of these laws. We have a zero-tolerance approach to all crime, we will introduce a Public Order Act and enforce it, we will crack down on juvenile crime by introducing curfews and we ensure that sentencing reflects community expectations.”